FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 2, 2013

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REP. CLARK ANNOUNCES DNR RULE PACKAGE INCLUDES STATEWIDE RESTRICTION ON HARVEST OF WHITE/ALBINO DEER

MADISON: On July 20th, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources released the Deer Trustee Report Proposed Rule Package, a list of potential rule changes regarding deer management. Within the report, one of the proposed program changes restores a statewide restriction on the harvest of white and albino deer.

The Leland area in Sauk County is home to a small population of white and albino deer. In November, 2012, hunters and residents throughout Sauk County were appalled to learn that two of the roughly twelve reported white and albino deer in the area were killed by hunters. Because Leland is located in a CWD management zone these albino and white deer are currently not allotted the same protections as white deer in other parts of the state.

Representative Fred Clark (D-Baraboo) took an active role in urging the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to protect the white deer in Leland.

"Many Sauk County residents let me know how vehemently opposed they were to the harvesting of white and albino deer. As an avid hunter, I share their concerns. Within Sauk County, residents and responsible hunters understand that white and albino deer are unique and should be protected."

"In response to the many passionate calls, letters, and e-mails that I received, I asked DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp to consider restoring the statewide protection of albino and white deer in CWD management zones. I am pleased to announce that this consideration has been adopted in the DNR rules package."

"This first step is a victory for the people of the Sauk County community and all other communities who value our unique wildlife populations and the rules that enforce our hunting ethics."

It is important to note that the restoration of the ban on harvesting white and albino deer has yet to receive final approval. If you would like to attend one of the local hearings about these rules, please refer to the dates and locations below.

Tuesday, October 22: Richland County Courthouse Board Room 181 W. Seminary St. 6-8pm

Thursday, October 24: Portage Law Enforcement Center 711 East Cook St. 6-8pm

Thursday, October 24: Mauston H.S. Auditorium 800 Grayside Ave. 7-9pm

Wednesday, October 30: Dodgeville DNR Service Center 1500 N. Johns St. 6-8pm

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